

The GARZETTE

December, 2003

Volume 12, Issue 10



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Editorial

In his 1998 book entitled The Book of Heroes: Great Men and Women in American History, George Roche provides a fascinating look at some of the world's greatest leaders. Foremost in gaining his respect is George Washington.

You probably know that in 1775, shortly after the first shots were fired leading to the Revolutionary War, the Second Continental Congress unanimously elected George Washington as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. But, do you know why they selected him?

He was not a general. He was just a simple country farmer who happened to have some limited military experience. He did not enjoy a reputation as a powerful politician or a great orator. At 43, he was also far too young for such an awesome responsibility. But he was the type of man who never quit, no matter how difficult the odds. If the American cause had to rest on the shoulders of one man, the delegates knew unquestionably that the man had to be George Washington.

Additionally, he had been taught a wealth of practical moral "life-rules" in his childhood that directed his actions throughout his life. Again, Roche lists just a few examples: Speak not when you should hold your peace.....Always submit your judgment to others with modesty.....Be not hasty to believe flying reports to the disparagement of any..... Let your conversations be without malice or envy Let your recreations be manful, not sinful. He did not forget these rules or out grow them.

Washington seemed to epitomize what Rudyard Kipling once called the "thin red line of heroes." The "thin red line" is an expression often used in literature to describe soldiers on the front who are faced with overwhelming odds. It refers to the last line of defense which is to guard that which is esteemed to be of most value.

Now to us. The twenty-first century offers the American citizen amazing freedoms. The soils of the earth hold the blood of thousands of men and women who fought to assure the endurance of these freedoms and "rights." One "right" we each would be quick to defend is the freedom of speech. It is a priceless "right." That's the good news.

The bad news is what some people are doing under the banner of this "right." For example, drive-time broadcast radio is filled with personalities who take delight in the shock value of discussing the basest, crudest, most foul and profane topics and

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to garzette@gars.org. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. John A. Davis, WB4QDX, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Paul McInnish, K4BET who manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:

Newsletter Editor:

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All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor

GARS MEETING MINUTES

November 11th 2003

- GARS President Carl Plotz opened meeting at 19:35.
- Introduction of Officers and Committee Chairmen
- Introduction of Members
- Meeting Minutes Approved
- Treasures Report – No unusual spending
- Activities Report:
 - Kidney Walk & Science night were a huge success
 - Christmas Party will be at LDS Church (corner Sugarloaf and 5 Forks)
 - ❖ Admission will be \$5.00/per person – Reservations required
 - ❖ Reservations due by 11/26
 - ❖ Several door prizes will be awarded
- New members voted in:
 - Zack Bennett – KI4CJF
 - Ryan Duncan - KI4CSM
- There will be no December meeting.
- During January meeting nominations will be accepted for 2004 officers
- “Ham of the Year” nominations were accepted by officers
- Repeater Chairman Report
 - Bogan Road Site – Volunteers needed to bring this site back on-line
 - The Main Repeater will be off air for maintenance. Therefore, all communications to the repeater network will require a PL of 82.5
- *Meeting adjourned at 21:05*

Submitted by:
J. Morgan Ringold, KG4PAN - GARS Club Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting

All interested individuals are invited and encouraged to attend the monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Presently, these gatherings occur one hour in advance of the regular Club Meeting. The location is in a classroom immediately near the Club meeting space.

Several years ago these Ex. Comm. meetings were instituted for the purpose of saving more time in our Club meetings for "radio talk" verses the business of the Club. To that end, they have been successful. However, some members enjoy ALL aspects of the Club, and as such, are encouraged to come, participate, share insights and opinions! We will all be benefited by the sharing of

For the latest Club news, visit the GARS Website at:

www.gars.org

Club Calendar

- GARS Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. We meet at the First United Methodist Church in Lawrenceville.
- GARS Monthly exec meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. We meet at the First United Methodist Church in Lawrenceville. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Thursday at 8 PM local time: GARS CW Practice Net with WE5O
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 8AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- 20th of each month: Deadline for submittal of articles for the following month's GARGZETTE

GARS Elmers

Many of us Hams got interested in the hobby (service) as a result of some influence an experienced Ham had on us. The GARS organization is blessed with a lot of talented members that are willing to share their knowledge. The following list is made up of those individuals willing to serve as Elmers. Hopefully, this list will grow, and in time, maybe we'll get more who are willing to add a particular area of expertise.

KF4KSE David Moon (770) 279-9924
mobile radio installation

KG4IUM Andrea Hartlage (770) 963-2715
making QSL cards

KG4FXG, Bill Carter, (770) 339-4531
Mobile CW

WA4DYD, Stan Edwards (770) 923-8770
Emergency Communications

GENERAL INFORMATION:

WE5O Ron Langston (770) 569-8354

N1TWX Win Jackson (404) 869-1347

W4WKP Johnnie Fearon (770) 207-0020

WB2YAD Duane Reynolds

WB9JSW, Carl Plotz

K4MJK Mike Kovak

K4CB Carter Bennett (770) 923-5446

W4ADE Ade Wirth (770) 614-3743

K4HBI Mike Swiderski (770) 449-0369

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Carl Plotz, WB9JSW

Vice President

vacant

Secretary

J. Morgan Ringold, KG4PAN

Treasurer

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

Activities Manager

David Adcock, KA4KKF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Adcock, KA4KKF

Johnny Fearon, W4WKP

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

COMMITTEES

Membership

John A. Davis, WB4QDX
770-962-6129

Public Information Officer

Norm Schklar, WA4Z XV

Newsletter Editor

Rich Armstrong, WM9X

License Trustee

Randy Drescher, K4HS
770-925-9549

Repeater Chairman

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM

Tech Fest

OPEN

WAS/VUCC Card Checker

Don Ernest, KS4WR

Net Manager

Harry Holmes, K4HJH

Field Day Chair

Harry Holmes, K4HJH

Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX
(404)869-1347

Club Meeting Coordinator

Jack Shipley, W4UVQ

Apparel Manager

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

Holiday Party Co-Chairs

Carl Plotz, WB9JSW

Mavis Plotz, N9FWG

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE
(770)614-3743

Webmaster

Brandon White, NB5E

Scholarship Chairman

Carter Wood, AG4LK

CW Net Manager

Ron Langston, WE5O

Technical Advisor

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI

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EDITORIAL—continued from page 1

language imaginable. Primetime television (another freedom of speech medium) seems to delight in featuring anything that only a generation ago would not have been discussed between even drunken sailors (*no offense intended toward our water-borne men in uniform!*)

Now, contrast the above described media trend with the laws that apply to Amateur Radio. If we use profane language or discuss offensive material (as *Amateur* Radio operators) we are subject to stiff monetary fines and the revocation of our operating privileges. Interesting. It begs the question: "Who is the "thin red line" for appropriate language on our airwaves, the professionals or the amateurs?" I believe it is noteworthy that the Amateur Radio community is held to the very highest standard of all wireless communication modes.

I am pleased to be associated with a group of people (both locally and globally) who choose to express themselves using appropriate language all-the-while discussing appropriate topics. No, we are not perfect in our expression, but by and large, we do not ever have to wonder if we are going to be verbally assaulted once we key up the mic. I never hesitate to turn on my 2-meter rig while mobile with my family. None of my immediate family members are interested in pursuing Amateur Radio, yet they seem to enjoy "listening-in" on my QSO's with other operators. These conversations are entertaining, informative and frequently uplifting. They never are base or embarrassing.

When serving as prime minister of England, Winston Churchill delivered an address to his alma mater. His message was short, firm and to the point: "Young gentlemen, never give up! Never give up! Never give up! Never! Never! Never! Never! Never!"

It is very important that we, members of GARS and all Amateur operators, do our best to continue this high standard of verbal conduct. After all, if we are not the "thin red line", who is?

The Editor

IMPORTANT REMINDER

December's regular GARS Club meeting will be replaced by the Annual Christmas Party held on Saturday December 6th.

January's GARS Club meeting will be Tuesday the 13th at the regular meeting location.

YOUTHFUL NET CONTROL OPERATORS

By Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM
Contributing Editor to the *ARRL*

You too can be a net control operator! This is one way younger hams can contribute to Amateur Radio and provide a public service at the same time. Like many other things in Amateur Radio, serving as a net control station (NCS) can be very rewarding.

I serve as net control for both the Gwinnett County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Weekly Training Net and the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS) Want, Sell, Swap and Information Net. Being net control is fun, because it lets me perfect my operating skills while giving something back to my radio club.

Here are some basic tips for new net control operators:

- ◆ Always stay calm, no matter what happens. Other stations on frequency look up (or in this case "listen up") to net control. If the NCS on an emergency net panics, the net panics.
- ◆ Number your net check-in sheet. Then, instead of trying to count how many stations checked in as the net session winds down, you'll already know. Thanks to ARRL Georgia Section Manager Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, for teaching me that trick.
- ◆ Relax and have fun! In addition to providing a service, Amateur Radio is your *hobby*.

Let's hear what other young net control operators have to say:

Andrew Kelly, K3ASK, advises that a script really helps keep things organized during the net.

Chris Mayrose, KD5QBS, says preparation is the key. "Don't walk into the station one minute before the net begins and try and throw things together. Things are bound to go wrong."

*The complete article can be viewed at the ARRL Web:
Youth @HamRadio.Fun*

January Club Presentation

Sandy Donahue, W4RU, will give us a presentation on the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). This organization is actively engaged in providing an impressive variety of services to the Amateur Radio community. Come and learn what your dues are doing for you.

February Club Presentation

Club member Bill Carter—KG4FXG, will be presenting information on the National Traffic System. The N.T.S. is a valuable tool for efficient and accurate message handling during times of communications emergencies. It also is one more facet of our Amateur Radio experience to be enjoyed! Thanks in advance, Bill.

March Club Presentation

Club member Stan Edwards—WA4DYD, will give us a presentation on the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Stan serves as the Gwinnett County ARES Director. Gwinnett County (ARES) is a model of organization and cooperation between Amateur Radio and local government.

Results of the “CW Vote” by Susan Swiderski, AF4FO

As Georgia Section Manager for the ARRL, Susan reported to Frank Butler, W4RH, Southeastern Director of the ARRL, the following results of an informal vote regarding Morse Code requirements:

194 NO's—do away with the code requirement

503 YES's—keep the 5wpm code requirement

38 members voted for a compromise of the requirements

All voting ended October 31, 2003. A complete report may be viewed at www.arrl-ga.org Look for Susan's [Georgia on My Mind](#).

Member Spotlight

Editors Note - At the November GARS Club meeting, it was proposed that a couple of our members would be selected each month and asked to write a small feature spot for the Gartzette. The writers could introduce themselves to the Club or select any topic germane to our Amateur Radio interests. This is strictly voluntary; no pressure will be applied! Just have fun with it.

Zack Bennett - KI4CJF

I have been a licensed ham since September 29, 2003. I was first introduced to ham radio when I was in scouts, back in the summer of '98.

I earned my Radio merit badge there and decided to look into amateur radio a little more. I found a radio class being taught by Winslow Jackson, N1TWX, at my high school and decided to join it. I went out, bought "Now your Talking" in August of 1999, and took the class with Winslow for three years.

Finally, four years later, I had decided that I had put it off long enough; I went out and read the whole book, took the test and passed it all within three months.

Within those four years, I had kept up with scouting and earned the rank of Eagle on August 24, 2002.

I enrolled at Georgia Perimeter College taking general studies; and in the spring of 2004, I plan to attend Gwinnett Tech to get EMT certified. Going to both schools at the same time is going to be a challenge for me, but I know I can do it, especially with the help and support of my family and my loving girlfriend Amanda. (Yes, she is working on her license!)



***** Contact a Club officer if you have a suggestion for an upcoming Club meeting speaker or topic. ****

GARS Apparel

Several items of clothing that feature our Club logo and/or your callsign are available to Club members. These items include polo shirts, sweat shirts, caps, jackets and other articles. Callsign badges can also be ordered. See Dan Keohan, KF4YSU, at the next Club meeting for a listing of items and their associated costs.

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Be an Instructor—Here's Help

The ARRL Field and Educational Services is pleased to announce the newest resource for active Volunteer Instructors: *The Online Instructor Primer*.

This new compilation by Linda Mullally, KB1HSV, is packed with helpful tips, links and tutorials that are sure to help instructors eager to try new ideas and approaches. The web primer is organized so information can be easily and quickly located. The index shows a wide range of topics, such as: "Planning", "How to Get Volunteers to Teach", "Take Advantage of Special Events", etc.

Quick-links give access to many ARRL services. Becoming a Volunteer Instructor has never been easier. Please consider reading why being an Instructor can be so rewarding. Go to www.arrl.org/fandes/ead/instructor/oip/ to see how easy it has become to be an instructor.

Theory of Accessibility

It basically deals with the idea that an individual cannot come to understand and practice an element of knowledge until that knowledge is directly, meaningfully, and "ongoingly" accessible to him.

November Club Meeting Program

David Adcock, KA4KKF, taught us what some of those strange sounds are which we hear on the air. It was evident the David spent considerable time in the preparation of his program, and we certainly were the beneficiaries! Thanks David for your show and all you do for the GARS Club.

New Club Members

GARS was fortunate enough to obtain two new members during November's Club meeting. Give a big welcome to:

Zack Bennett - KI4CJF

Ryan Duncan - KI4CSM

What can you do?

I sometimes feel inadequate in my abilities to "make a difference" in causes I believe in. But the following anonymous thought encourages me to contribute:

Use the talents you possess; for the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except the best.

Rich—WM9X

Other

Here are some quotes worth pondering:

I've gone to look for myself. If I should return before I get back, keep me here!

Burke Breathed

Heredity is what makes parents suspicious of each other.

Frequent naps will keep you from getting old, especially if taken while driving.

In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock.

Thomas Jefferson

New General Class Question Pool Released - ARRL Web page (www.arrl.org)

NEWINGTON, CT, Dec 3, 2003--The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Radio General class (Element 3) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2004, and must be used to generate all General written examinations administered on or after that date.

"The pool has been expanded to 432 questions," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, a member of the Question Pool Committee, who notes that all subelements grew slightly. "The largest increase in questions this time around was in our Operating Procedures and Amateur Radio Practices subelements," he said. The General class question pool does not contain any diagrams or symbols.

The new Element 3 question pool is available on the ARRL Amateur Exam Question Pools Web page in Adobe PDF and ASCII text format. It includes all questions and answers relating to Element 3. Question pools no longer are available via diskette or hard copy.

QPC Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, thanked all amateurs who contributed to the development of the syllabus or offered specific questions for inclusion. He said publishers, VECs and volunteer examiner teams are permitted to correct obvious minor typographical errors in the pool, but he asks that anyone spotting such errors notify him so the QPC can promulgate any necessary corrections.

The Question Pool Committee now is turning its attention to developing an outline for an updated Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool, which will be revised over the next 24 months, Jahnke said. It will go into effect July 1, 2006. The deadline to submit input to the Amateur Extra question pool syllabus is May 1, 2004.

In addition to Neustadter and Jahnke, members of the Question Pool Committee are Fred Maia, W5YI, and John Johnston, W3BE. Commenters may address specific Element 3 questions as well as inputs to the Element 3 syllabus and question pool to the Question Pool Committee via e-mail.

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HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

***"The Radio Amateur is Considerate,
Loyal, Progressive, Friendly,
Balanced, and Patriotic"***

-- The Amateur's Creed, Paul M. Segal (9EEA)

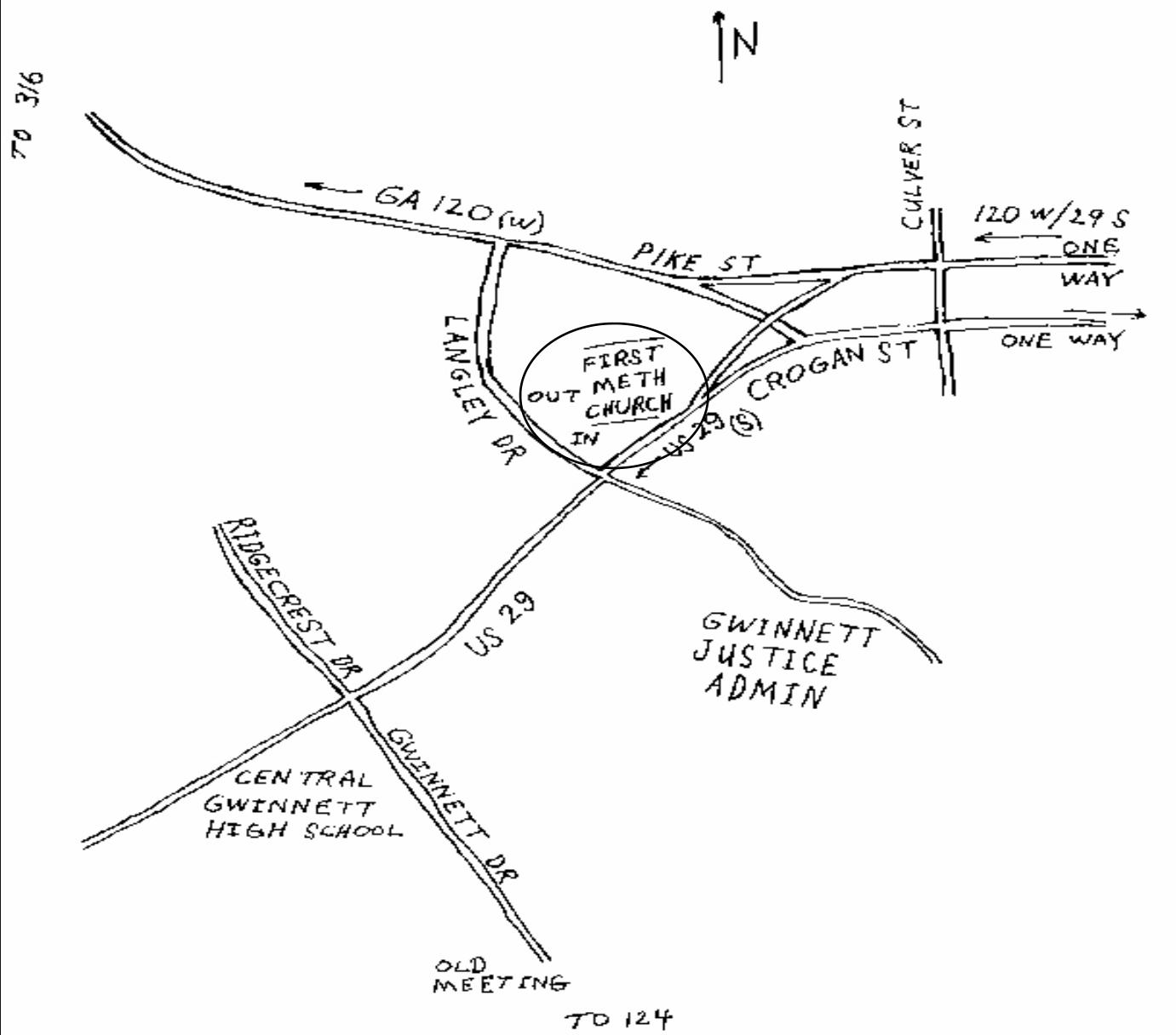
Your Ad Could Be Here

If you need to sell an item (or want to locate a hard to find gadget) place your notice in the *Garzette*.

We will run your non-business ad for free (space available). Just send your ad to Editor Rich Armstrong, WM9X.

Talk-in directions are available on the GARS Club repeater - 147.075

**Club Meeting Site
Lawrenceville First United Methodist Church**



We'll see you at the next GARS Club meeting:

13 January 2004



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER
 NEW AL

Amateur Call Sign _____ License Class Novice Technician General
 Advanced Extra

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Email address _____

Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

Cell Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ (mm/dd/yy)

ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests _____

I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by: US Mail Email (please check only one)

Type of Membership

Individual \$30.00 annually
 Student \$15.00 annually
 Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)
 Family ** \$35.00 annually

** Available for family members residing at the same address

Optional Contributions

Repeater Fund \$ _____
Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Additional Family Members **

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests _____

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

GARS USE ONLY

Date App Rcvd _____ / _____ / _____
Pmt Rcvd _____ / _____ / _____
Payment Amt \$ _____
Mem Appr _____ / _____ / _____
Database _____ / _____ / _____

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC
First United Methodist Church in
Marietta
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC
Room W218
Van Leer Electrical Engineering
Bldg.
Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club
Georgia Red Cross HQ
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

209 Athens St.
Jefferson
Meeting is at 7:00 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)
PL 123.0

North Fulton Amateur Radio League
Southern Skillet
1037 Alpharetta St., Roswell
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club
Annistown Road Baptist Church
Intersection of Annistown Rd &
Spain Rd
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

First Saturday

North GA QRP Club
Wiecu Baptist Church on
Peachtree Rd/Wiecu, 10 AM

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org

First Sunday, Even Months

WCARS VEC
2:00 PM

Johnson High School 3305 Poplar
Springs RD, Gainesville Terry Jones,
W4TL (770)967-6364

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United Methodist
Church Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
David Still, WB4RRD
(770) 973-2566

First Saturday, Even Months

9:00AM
EOC Building
Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC
7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road Lilburn
Headphones Provided! Howie Gould,
W9HG (770)921-8362

Fourth Sunday

2:30 PM
Georgia Tech Student Center
Room 301
David Ziskind, KE4QLH
(404) 966-6864

GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR/Relay

Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites

Bogart Road*, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

*Indefinitely off-the-air



GWINNETT COLLISION CENTER, INC.

305 Sharon Ind. Way
Suwanee, Georgia 30024
945-0161

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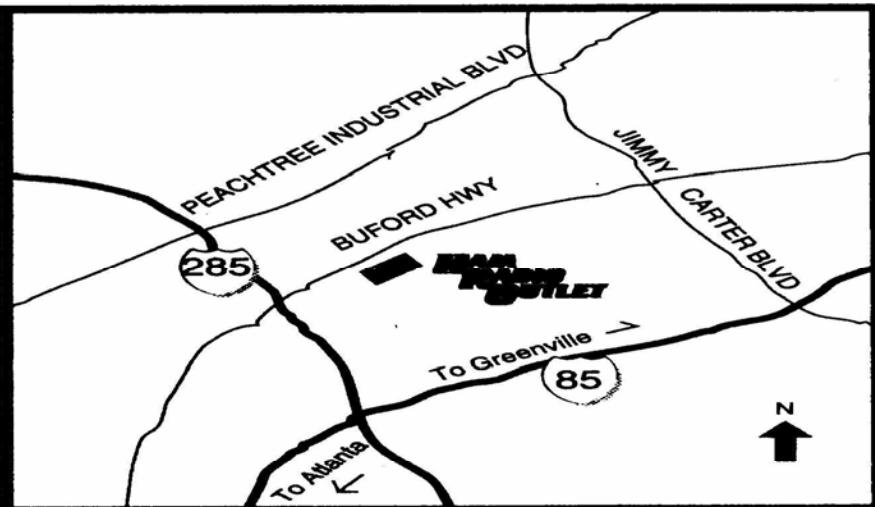


HAM RADIO OUTLET

Mark Holmes
Manager
KJ4VO

6071 Buford Hwy.
Atlanta, GA 30340 (Doraville)
770-263-0700, 1-800-444-7927
Fax 770-263-9548

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Bill KF8AZ
Mike N4MLB
Tim W4EGT
Dale W4GCL
Josh W4JDH

Alinco
Icom
Japan Radio Corp
Kenwood
Premier/ADI
Yaesu
Alpha Delta
Arrow
Butternut
Create
Cushcraft
Diamond
Force 12
Hustler
Hy-Gain (Telex)
KLM
Larsen
M2
Premier
Valor
Van Gorden



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

PO Box 88

Lilburn, GA 30048

To receive the **Garzette** via
email...contact John A. Davis
WB4QDX wb4qdx@gars.org



December 2003

6th 6:30pm Christmas
Party *see last months*
Garzette
No VE Session

January 2004

13th 6:30pm—Executive
Committee
13th 7:30pm—GARS Club
Meeting
23rd VE Session

February 2004

10th 6:30pm. - Executive
Committee
10th 7:30pm GARS Club
Meeting
27th VE Session